

**MINUTES OF MEETING
COMMON COUNCIL
CITY OF MONTICELLO
MONDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2009**

The meeting of the Common Council, of the City of Monticello, Indiana, was held on Monday, December 7, 2009, at 6:00 p.m. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Jason Thompson and opened with the pledge of allegiance.

Roll call, by Clerk Treasurer Liz Oilar, was answered by Mayor Jason Thompson, Council Members Dave Kelly, Jim Mann, Grace Oilar, Bill Smith, and Eric Storm, and City Attorney George Loy.

There being no additions, deletions, or corrections to the minutes of the meeting on Monday, November 16, 2009, a motion was made by Council Member Jim Mann, seconded by Council Member Grace Oilar, to approve the minutes as presented. All ayes, motion carried.

Department Head Reports

Street Superintendent Doug Roberts stated that they have finished picking up leaves. They picked up 246 loads and that is the most ever. They have put the Christmas lights up downtown. The City has received several compliments about how nice the lights look.

Parks Superintendent Mitch Billue stated that Friday they finished putting up the City Park's Christmas lights. He removed stumps from Jordan Park today. On December 2, 2009, Purdue students came to the Anheier Building and presented their ideas about different development ideas for the City's parks systems. Mitch has been awarded a \$15,000.00 grant from the Northwest Indiana Solid Waste District for the Skate Park. He will apply for the Tony Hawke's grant in January.

Police Chief Curt Blount stated that last week they finished up their annual training. They will start that again in April. Officer Tony Stroup is at the academy this week and will be a new instructor for the Police Department when he is done.

Wastewater Superintendent Joe Mowrer stated that Nipsco has power to the Western Heights lift station so now people their can hook up to it. His new building should be complete in the next two or three weeks. He is waiting for the finalized paperwork for National Homes.

Water Superintendent Rod Pool stated that the hatches should be back next week. They will get them painted and put back together. Other than that, things are normal. The cold weather is hard on them.

Fire Chief Shane Swaim was on vacation.

Public Hearing – Consideration of Ordinance 2009-27; Amending and Restating Monthly Rates and Charges for the Use of and Services Rendered by the Waterworks of the City of Monticello, Indiana, and Ordinance 2009-28; Amending and Restating Monthly Rates and Charges for the Use of and Services Rendered by the Sewage Works of the City of Monticello, Indiana

City Attorney George Loy stated that notice of this public hearing as to both ordinances have been published. The ordinances were previously introduced. Ordinance 2009-27 pertains to the

proposed Water Works increases and Ordinance 2009-28 pertains to the Sewage Works proposed increases. H.J. Umbaugh provided our financial rate studies, and an analysis of these rates in order to fund the proposed bonding projects. This public hearing will be continued until December 14, 2009 at 4:00 p.m., when both ordinances will be adopted. Eric Walsh, Umbaugh, was on hand to answer any financial questions regarding the rate increases. The Waterworks increase is in a two phase increase. Phase I will be effective January 1, 2010, and Phase II January 1, 2011. Sewage rates will increase January 1, 2011. The last rate increase was in 2004. Council Member Grace Oilar made the motion to continue the public hearing for consideration of Ordinance 2009-27 and Ordinance 2009-28 to December 14, 2009, at 4:00 p.m., seconded by Council Member Jim Mann. All ayes, motion carried.

Public Hearing – Ordinance 2009-30; Additional Appropriation MVH Fund

City Attorney George Loy stated that notice of a public hearing has been duly published concerning an additional appropriation in the sum of \$80,000.00 to the MVH fund. This is for appropriation 201001363 – Street and Alley Repair. There was no public comment or questions. City Attorney Loy closed the public hearing.

2010 Proposed Holiday Schedule

Council Member Grace Oilar made the motion to approve the 2010 proposed holiday schedule, seconded by Council Member Bill Smith. All ayes, motion carried.

Ordinance 2009-30; Additional Appropriation MVH Fund

Council Member Jim Mann made the motion to suspend the rules in order to adopt Ordinance 2009-30 on first reading, seconded by Council Member Dave Kelly. All ayes, motion carried. Council Member Jim Mann made the motion to approve Ordinance 2009-30, seconded by Council Member Eric Storm. All ayes, motion carried.

Discussion of Front End Loader – Street Department

Street Superintendent Doug Roberts discussed with the Council his desire for a new front end loader. He and two of his men have looked at a particular machine. He has money to pay for this loader. He will get three quotes and present them to the Board of Works.

Ordinance 2009-31; Transferring Funds Within the Various Accounts of the City of Monticello, Indiana

Police Chief Curt Blount gave the Council paperwork addressing his need to transfer money within various accounts of his department to the new equipment appropriation. He wants to purchase emergency console lighting, a wireless router, two additional radios, and two laptops. There also was a MVH and Police Pension transfer with this Ordinance. Council Member Eric Storm made the motion to suspend the rules in order to pass Ordinance 2009-31 on first reading, seconded by Council Member Grace Oilar. All ayes, motion carried. Council Member Eric Storm made the motion to approve Ordinance 2009-31, seconded by Council Member Grace Oilar. All ayes, motion carried.

Presentation and Update on Altherr Park – Parks Board

Bill Griffin, President of the Parks Board, made a presentation and update to the Council about Altherr Park. In 2006, Bill Altherr requested that a nature park be built with money he left to the Parks Board. They have been searching for property the past three years that fits the criteria that Bill Altherr wanted. They formed a committee of friends of his who looked over the City, and they have found a piece of property that would fit the bill. Bill Griffin thanked Rick Read, who contacted the landscape architecture class at Purdue, and they are making Monticello a class project this semester. They looked at the proposed Altherr Park and other established parks and

came up with ideas which they presented last Wednesday, December 2, 2009 to the public and Parks Board. The Parks Board has contacted the owners of the proposed Altherr property, had them appraised, and they both have accepted the average of the two appraisals. The Boards next phase will be to acquire the property. They have been told by Purdue that they could possibly come back next semester, take all the projects and ideas the Board liked, and put them in a book. They would use this to pursue grants. Council Member Grace Oilar stated that the Parks Board has worked long and hard on this and have tried to find something that the Board feels is in the best interest of the nature park, and that Bill Altherr would have wanted. She commended them for all their efforts. Council Member Dave Kelly also commended the Parks Board and extended thanks and support for the work they have done, and hope we can do everything possible to help facilitate their projects. Council Member Eric Storm stated that he is excited about Altherr Park. The drawings the Purdue students provided are fantastic, and he can only imagine what that area could look like in a few years. Council Member Bill Smith also praised Purdue about the great work done with the different kinds of drawings, and how good they looked. Council Member Jim Mann stated the Board has done a lot of hard work and the Council supports them.

Miscellaneous and All Other Matter

Mayor Jason Thompson stated that he did receive word back from White County Community Foundation on Council Member Grace Oilar's grant for the Tornado Memorial. The City has been awarded a \$1,000.00 grant. City Attorney George Loy has received the deed on this property from the Historical Society. This is an exciting project. Water Superintendent Rod Pool is in charge of this project and it is starting to take shape. Anyone wanting to buy a brick for the Tornado Memorial may do so through the City Clerk Treasurer's office.

There being no further business, meeting adjourned at 6:33 p.m.

Liz Oilar
Clerk Treasurer